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United States  
FETHE24.001CP1 (47753-5CIP)  
Patents

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION**

Serial Number: 10/005,186  
Group Art Unit: 3742  
Examiner: Shawntina T. Fuqua  
Title: Heat-Treating Methods and Systems  
Filing Date: December 4, 2001 (CIP of 09/729,747 filed Dec. 4, 2000)  
Inventors: CAMM, David Malcolm; ELLIOTT, J. Kiefer  
Agent's ref: FETHE24.001CP1 (47753-5CIP)

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October 20, 2004

U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
United States

Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

In response to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2004, the deadline for responding to which is December 23, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 17 of this paper.